



186 Center Street
Suite 290
Clinton, NJ 08809
(908) 735-9315
Fax (908) 735-2132

May 17, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Diane Salkie
ATTN: Lower Passaic River Remedial Project Manager
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. EPA, Region 2
290 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 168 – April 2021
Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) -
CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009**

Dear Ms. Salkie:

de maximis, inc. is submitting this Monthly Progress Report for the above-captioned project on the behalf of the RI/FS Agreement Settling Parties (Cooperative Parties Group or CPG) pursuant to the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Settlement Agreement or AOC). The Progress Report satisfies the reporting requirements of Paragraph 42 of said Settlement Agreement.

(a) Actions which have been taken to comply with this Settlement Agreement during the previous month.

Meetings/Conference Calls

- On April 8, EPA and CPG conducted an MS Teams meeting to Phase 2 Current Conditions – Surface Water sampling

Correspondence

- On April 8, EPA and CPG exchanged presentations for their April 8 meeting
- On April 9, EPA provided supplemented its April 8 presentation (hereafter April 8/9 presentation).
- April 12, CPG requested responses to questions arising from EPA's April 8/9 presentation.
- On April 13, EPA responded to the CPG's April request.
- On April 13, EPA requested the CPG's provide final versions of the NBSA Modeling reports in pdf format for final approval.

Ms. D. Salkie
LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 168 – April 2021
May 17, 2021
Page 2 of 3

- On April 13, EPA requested information regarding cap modeling in order to review modeling being conducted for the Lower 8-mile Remedial Design: CPG provided available information on that same day.
- On April 14, EPA informed the CPG that the Upper 9-Mile Interim Remedy (OU4) Proposed Plan had been released for public comment.
- On April 14, CPG delivered the March 2021 RI/FS Progress Report.
- On April 15, EPA provided the CPG with updated COVID 19 guidance
- On April 15, EPA provided further clarification of its April 8/9 presentation.
- On April 22, EPA inquired about the CPG's intentions for 2021 Current Conditions Sampling.
- On April 21, CPG provided an incident for potential COVID 19 exposure that occurred during the 21C sv-CWCM event.
- On April 23, EPA provided further clarification of its April 8/9 presentation.
- On April 27, EPA approved the final reports for the NBSA Model completed by the CPG.

Work

- CPG continued work on revision and calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model. CPG continued its deployment of PWCM moorings at RM 8.4, RM 10.2, RM 12, RM 13.5 and RM 15.8 as part of a planned deployment.
- On April 1, CPG completed the second day of the 21D sv-CWCM event.

(b) Results of Sampling and Tests

- Data received in April will be delivered under separate cover.

(c) Work planned for the next two months with schedules relating to the overall project schedule for RI/FS completion

- CPG will continue calibration of the Bioaccumulation Model.
- Preparations for conducting sv-CWCM events when conditions permit
- Routine maintenance of PWCM moorings during the planned deployment
- Ongoing discussions with EPA on 2021 Current Conditions sampling

(d) Problems encountered and anticipated problems, actual or anticipated delays, and solutions developed and implemented to address actual or anticipated problems or delays.

- Work/travel safety restrictions associated with COVID-19 may impact and/or delay 2021 Current Conditions Sampling field work.

Ms. D. Salkie
LPRSA RI/FS - Progress Report No. 168 – April 2021
May 17, 2021
Page 3 of 3

If you have any questions, please contact me at 215-806-7688.

Very truly yours,

de maximis, inc.



Robert Law, Ph.D.
CPG Project Coordinator

cc: Frances Zizila, EPA Region 2 Office of Regional Counsel
Dawn Lamparello, CPG Coordinating Counsel
Lisa Baron, USACE
Clay Stern, USFWS
Reyhan Mehran, NOAA
Jay Nickerson, NJDEP
Beth Franklin, USACE
David Marabello, CDM-Smith
Scott Kirchner, CDM-Smith